

Officer responsible	Author Craig Taylor
Corporate Plan Output: Street Tree Maintenance and Felling Citywide	

The purpose of this report is to provide information on the possible species to be used for replacement of the Liquidambar trees in Mirfield Place if removal is decided upon.

BACKGROUND

Board members will recall that the matter of tree replacement Mirfield Place was deferred at the 23 November 1999 meeting, pending costs for the various options for addressing the issue. The Board at this time asked for a report on suitable species for replacement and associated costs.

With the option of removing the existing trees and replacement with a more suitable species the Parks Unit proposed to use semi-mature trees as replacements similar to the Poynder Avenue situation so as to lessen the impact on the street. The costs for street tree planting are shown below

Note : These costs are inclusive of all supply and planting costs

<u>Semi Mature Specimens</u>		<u>Standard Street Tree Grade</u>	
Cost		Cost	
8 trees @ \$450 per tree	\$3,600	8 trees @ \$100 per tree	\$800

Species Selection

With the size of berm available there are constraints on what species would be suitable. Due to probable long-term problems with root damage these size berms have a restricted number of tree species to choose from.

The main requirements for Mirfield Place are smaller sized trees with non-invasive root systems.

The two preferred options which could be put to the residents are

Sophora tetraptera – New Zealand Kowhai

Which is a medium sized evergreen tree bearing clusters of yellow bell shaped flowers in early spring.

Styrax japonica – Snowball Tree

Which is a medium sized deciduous tree bearing clusters of white slightly fragrant flowers in late spring through to summer.

CONCLUSION

If the decision is made to remove the existing trees and replant then replacement species could be either of the two suggested. Using semi-mature replacement trees would reduce the impact on the street. It will also be possible to install one or two additional trees to replace ones that have been removed in the past.

Recommendation: That subject to the decision for tree replacement the replacement species is *Styrax japonica* and that semi-mature ready trees are used to reduce the impact on the streetscape.

**Chairman's
Recommendation:** For discussion